

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANILA 03972 090729 Z

10

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

AID-20 OMB-01 NSC-10 L-03 TRSE-00 IGA-02 PM-09 RSR-01

/087 W

----- 014919

R 090503 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO NRUEHC/ SECSTATE WASHDC 4315

INFO SECDEF

JCS

CINCPAC

S E C R E T MANILA 3972

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: RP, PINS, PFOR, MARR

SUBJECT: GOP REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY DEFENSE MATERIEL
ASSISTANCE

REF: (A) MANILA 3073 (161024 Z MAR)

(B) STATE 54746 (240051 Z)

1. IN ORDER TO CONVEY FLAVOR AND SENSE OF URGENCY BEHIND
THE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED GOP REQUESTS FOR EXTRAORDINARY
MILITARY ASSISTANCE DELIVERY EFFORT TO MEET ACCELERATED
REQUIREMENTS DUE TO FIGHTING IN THE MUSLIM SOUTH, WE ARE
TRANSMITTING IN FULL TEXT A " SECRET-- URGENT LETTER RECEIVED
OVER WEEKEND BY AMBASSADOR FROM GENERAL ROMULO. QUOTE.

DEAR AMBASSADOR BYROADE:

FOR MORE THAN A MONTH NOW, WE HAVE BEEN FIGHTING
A WAR, THE GRAVITY OF WHICH MAKES IT IMPERATIVE THAT
WE AVAIL OF EXTRADINARY MILITARY MEASURES. YOU ARE
FULLY AWARE OF THIS, SINCE YOU WERE BRIEFED AT THE
MDB MEETING LAST MARCH 15 TH, SUPPLEMENTED BY A DAY-
TO- DAY INFORMATION BRIEFING, ON DEVELOPMENTS ON THE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MANILA 03972 090729 Z

MINDANAO SITUATION.

IT CANNOT BE GAINSAID THAT THE SITUATION THAT HAS THUS EMERGED IS THE RESULT OF MANY FACTORS, ONE OF WHICH COULD VERY WELL BE TRACED TO SHORTFALLS IN MILITARY ASSISTANCE DUE FROM THE U. S. UNDER EXISTING TREATY COMMITMENTS-- THIS, DESPITE REPEATED REQUESTS, BOTH FORMAL AND INFORMAL, FOR SUCH MILITARY ASSISTANCE FROM OUR GOVERNMENT TO YOUR GOVERNMENT, CONVEYED THROUGH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN MANILA AS WELL AS THROUGH CINCPAC AND JUSMAG- PHIL AUTHORITIES.

WE THEREFORE FIND OUR FIGHTING MEN IN MINDANAO IN A SITUATION WHERE OUR FORCES AND RESOURCES ARE INADEQUATE IN THE FACE OF THE SOPHISTICATED WEAPONRY AND TRAINING AVAILABLE TO THE MUSLIM REBELS THROUGH DIRECT, SUSTAINED SUPPORT FROM CERTAIN MUSLIM COUNTRIES. IT IS ESSENTIAL THEREFORE, THAT WE ACHIEVE A PREPONDERANT RATIO OF PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT IN OUR FAVOR. AT BEST, WE HAVE MAINTAINED ONLY A PARITY THROUGH PROCUREMENT, YCXQNG OUR OWN RESOURCES, OF THE NEEDED AUGMENTATION IN ARMAMENTS AND EQUIPMENT-- A SITUATION THAT IS LIKEWISE OBTAINING IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY WHERE WE ARE ENCOUNTERING INSURGENCY.

THERE IS UNQUESTIONABLY A PAUCITY OF U. S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT. IN THE IST, THIS WAS NOT AS ACUTELY FELT ONLY BECAUSE THE SITUATION THEN WAS WELL WITHIN OUR LOCAL CAPABILITY TO CONTAIN. HOWEVER, THE PREVAILING SITUATION IN MINDANAO COULD VERY WELL ESCALATE TOPROPORTIONS WHICH, UNLESS ARRESTED AND QUELLED, COULD RESULT IN A MINIATURE VIETNAM- TYPE CONFLICT ; AND BY THEN, CONTAINMENT WOULD HAVE BECOME MORE DIFFICULT AND EXPENSIVE IN TERMS OF LIVES AND MATERIALS, NOT TO MENTION ADDED MISERY AND SUFFERING AMONG THE POPULACE: CHRISTIANS, MUSLIMS AND OTHER MINORITIES.

I AM CERTAIN THAT YOU APPRECIATE THE INEVITABLE REPERCUSSIONS IN THIS WARFARE, SHOULD WE BE UNABLE TO CONTAIN IT, REPERCUSSIONS WHICH WILL NECESSARILY INVOLVE THE SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES, BECAUSE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MANILA 03972 090729 Z

OF THE PRESENCE AND TENURE OF YOUR TWO VITAL BASES,

CLARK AND SUBIC; NOT TO MENTION HOW IT IS NOW ADVERSELY AFFECTING LARGE U. S. BUSINESS INTERESTS, SUCH AS THOSE OF B. F. GOODRICH, FIRESTONE, DOLE, PHILIPPINE PACKING, THE OIL COMPANIES AND OTHER LIKE U. S. FIRMS LOCATED IN MINDANAO.

MR. AMBASSADOR, IT IS SIGNIFICANT TO CALL TO MIND THAT MORE THAN ANY COUNTRY IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD, THE PHILIPPINES HAS ALWAYS BEEN YOUR GOVERNMENT'S CLOSE ALLY AND FRIEND, IN PEACE AND IN WAR, WITH CONSISTENT SINCERITY. ALL WE ASK IS THAT EXISTING TREATY COMMITMENTS BE LIVED UP TO.

PHAM INCLOSING HERewith THE FOLLOWING WHICH BEAR DIRECTLY ON THE TEXT OF THE LETTER:

- (1) LIST OF SHORTFALLS AGAINST THE U. S. MAP-FUNDED COMMITMENTS IN FY 1972 AND FY 1973;
- (2) LIST OF EQUIPMENT WE ARE REQUESTING UNDER THE TROOP EXPANSION PROGRAM AS PRESENTED AT THE MDB MEETING ON MARCH 15 TH (PAGE 29 OF THE BRIEF)
- (3) A REPORT OF THE SPECIAL BRIEFING AT MDB MEETING.

MAY WE REITERATE THEREFORE THAT OUR REQUESTS FOR ADEQUATE MILITARY ASSISTANCE BE GIVEN AN EARLY, SATISFACTORY RESPONSE. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES I NEED NOT EMPHASIZE THAT TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE.

VERY SINCERELY,

NY (CARLOS P. ROMULO)

SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

END QUOTE.

2. THE FIRST TWO LISTED ENCLOSURES (SHORTFALLS AND ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT) ARE THE SAME AS THE SUBMISSION PREVIOUSLY PASSED TO ADMIRAL GAYLER AND PORTIONS OF WHICH WERE ENDORSED FOLLOWING OUR MISSION- WIDE STUDE (REF A). COPY OF THE INTELLIGENCE BRIEFING AS PESENTED TO MDB MEETING PREVIOUSLY POUCHED TO COUNTRY DIRECTOR USHER. ROMULO' S VIGOROUS REAFFIRMATION OF THE ORIGINAL PACKAGE AS IT WAS APPROVED BY PRESIDENT MARCOS MAKES IT UNFORTUNATE THAT THAT THERE SEEMS NO PROSPECT (REF B) OF ANY SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 MANILA 03972 090729 Z

ADDITIONAL FY 73 MONEY AT THIS TIME. WE WILL BE COMMENTING FURTHER.
BYROADE

SECRET

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MANILA03972
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730437/aaaahyfd.tel
Line Count: 171
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 MANILA 3073 (161024 Z MAR), 73 STATE 54746 (240051 Z)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <22 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971212
Subject: GOP REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY DEFENSE MATERIEL ASSISTANCE
TAGS: MARR, PFOR, PINS, RP
To: CINCPAC
EA
JCS
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005